

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 ALGIER 00408 171816Z

65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 /082 W

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R 171525Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3862

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL ALGIERS 0408

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR AG EG SS

SUBJECT: SAHARA: GOA OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON MUBARAK MEDIATION ATTEMPT

1. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION FEB 14 WITH EMBOFF AND VISITING NEWSMAN, SENIOR-LEVEL ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE WAS VERY NEGATIVE ABOUT EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK'S ATTEMPT TO MEDIATE SHARA DISPUTE. SOURCE EXPRESSED SPECIFIC CONCURRENCE WITH NEWSMAN'S OBSERVATIONS THAT: A) MUBARAK WAS BETTER KNOWN AS A PILOT THAN AS A DIPLOMAT; AND B) A PRIMARY PURPOSE OF MEDIATION WAS TO BOLSTER SADAT'S IMAGE AS STATESMAN IN WAKE OF SYRIAN DIPLOMATIC SUCCESS IN LEBANON. WITHOUT SAYING SO DIRECTLY, OFFICIAL MADE IT CLEAR THAT MUBARAK WAS UNPREPARED, IN ALGERIAN VIEW, TO DEAL SERIOUSLY WITH SAHARA ISSUE AND HAD SIMPLY TRIED TO SMOOTH THINGS OVER. PARKER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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